

80th Congress
1st Session

SENATE

Calendar No. 216

Referred
N. S. 758

U.S. CONGRESS SENATE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 1947

June 5 (legislative day, April 21), 1947.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. GURNEY, from the Committee on Armed Services, submitted
following

REPORT

(To accompany S. 758)

The Committee on Armed Services, to whom was referred the bill (S. 758), to promote the national security by providing for a National Defense Establishment, which shall be administered by a Secretary of National Defense, and for a Department of the Army, a Department of the Navy, and a Department of the Air Force within the National Defense Establishment, and for the coordination of the activities of the National Defense Establishment with other departments and agencies of the Government concerned with the national security, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The proposed bill (S. 758) was forwarded to the President pro tempore of the Senate on February 26, 1947, by the President, who stated in his forwarding letter that it (S. 758) had been drafted by representatives of the armed services, and had the approval of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The bill was referred to your committee on March 3, 1947.

On March 12, 1947, your committee started hearings which lasted for nearly 10 weeks and afforded a full opportunity to be heard to the representatives of all Government departments and agencies and to all private individuals.

On May 20, 1947, your committee commenced executive sessions to review the testimony received in extensive hearings on the bill, and to consider proposed amendments. During the course of the executive sessions, the bill (S. 758) was so amended, without materially changing its basic provisions, as to make it a clear and precise expression of the will of Congress in regard to unification of the armed services.

On June 4, 1947, S. 758 (as amended) was approved in your committee (by a vote of 12 yeas to 0 nays) and ordered reported to the Senate. It should be noted that certain of the committee members, while

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